



# Foggy Bottom News

Published for and by the Citizens of Foggy Botttom

February 1982

Volume 26, No. 5

## MEETING

### Foggy Bottom Association

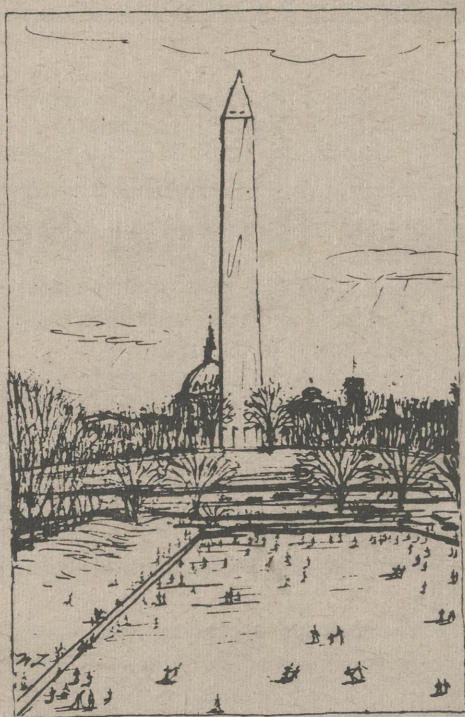
Monday, February 22

St. Paul's Parish House  
2430 K Street, N.W.

Patrick Kane  
and  
Jerry Price  
of  
Columbia Hospital for Women  
Guest Speakers

8:00 p.m.

All are welcome



ANC Meeting  
Tuesday, March 2  
7:30 p.m.  
Red Cross Building  
2025 E St. N.W.

## FBA Elects New President

Jacqueline Durham

At its January 25 meeting, members of the Foggy Bottom Association elected Rick Churchill to replace John Landgraf as the association's president. Mr. Landgraf resigned late last year after new personal and professional commitments promised to keep him away from the neighborhood for much of this year.

Mr. Churchill has been a resident of Foggy Bottom for over five years and is a native of southeast Washington. He has been actively involved in neighborhood affairs since he moved here and since September, 1980, has served as administrative assistant to the Foggy Bottom West End Ad-

visory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2-A). We know Mr. Churchill will be an asset to the FBA and we welcome him as president. We would also like to sincerely thank FBA Vice President Maureen Holscher for filling in as acting president during Mr. Landgraf's absence.

D.C. Mayor Marion S. Barry addressed the January 25 meeting. After hearing complaints from a number of residents about the proposed closing of the firehouse at 2119 G. St. N.W., the Mayor predicted it would "probably not be closed." He made no promises, however.

The mayor could not respond to questions from

citizens about their request that the Zoning Commission study the overabundance of medical clinics in Foggy Bottom and consider ruling against future conversions of residential property to clinics. He said he did not know the status of that proceeding.

The mayor promised, as he did the last time he addressed the FBA over two years ago, that a comprehensive city land-use plan would soon be completed. Unlike last time, however, he promised the plan would be ready "by the end of this year." The plan, said Mr. Barry, would help Foggy Bottom residents by containing future expansion by George Washington University.

ANC Commissioner Ed Terry urged members present at the meeting to contact District Councilmembers Dave Clarke and John Wilson to urge them to prevent the closing of the G. St. firehouse.

As it did last year, the FBA will celebrate Spring with a block party, to take place May 22.

## G Street Firehouse Threatened Again

Ed Terry

Of all the services the District government provides to the Foggy Bottom area, fire protection is the most vital. We are very fortunate to have a fire station located right in the heart of our neighborhood. Engine Company #23 is stationed at 2119 G Street N.W.

For the second consecutive year, Mayor Barry has recommended the closing of this fire station as a means of reducing the Fire Department's budget. The city stated that if this station was closed, the area could be protected by adjacent stations with an increase in response time of only 1 minute, two seconds.

Neighborhood groups have reacted quickly to demand restoration of funds for the G Street firehouse. Along with the FBA, a variety of tenant associations, and G.W. student groups, the Foggy Bottom/West End ANC contacted many Council members to urge support for keeping our fire station. No decision has yet been made, however.

Many interesting facts about our firehouse came to light while the ANC was preparing testimony which was presented to the City

Council on January 18. The number of calls at the G Street firehouse rose 8% last year, from 1,300 to 1,401. The number of medical calls Company #23 answers rose to over 30 a month.

We also learned some things about the number of people who depend on the G Street firehouse. Including dormitory residents, the number of people who live in the ANC is about 14,500. Yet, between the period of 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. there are over 138,000 people within a square mile of the house. To really appreciate this statistic, one must realize that the company itself is not being closed, only the building. The firefighters and equipment will be reassigned all over the city. The District's only savings will be in the building's lighting and heating. The safety of 138,000 people cannot be compromised just to save utility costs.

On Thursday, Feb. 11, the city announced it would not close the firehouse, citing neighborhood resistance as one reason for changing its position.

continued on page 6

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Foggy Bottom Farmer contemplates Spring, page 8.



## West End Friends to Incorporate

Recently, we have become aware of the real value of the various Friends' groups affiliated with branch libraries in the city. Not only do they serve to help thrash out problems within the branches but also they serve as a citizens' voice which collectively is instantly heard by the City Council and the Mayor. Whether it be budget, personnel depletion, or library closings, this voter voice alerts the Councilman to his obligations and responsibilities.

Our Friends of the West End Branch group has weathered a series of storms and has conquered the opposition in each case. We have existed during the past year as a loosely connected citizens' group whose only raison d'être has been to save the library, keep it repaired, and provide enough open hours to satisfy our needs. Now we face a new challenge which will make it necessary for us to incorporate, set up officers, pass by-laws and attend to all the other things necessary to make

ourselves a free standing entity.

We are pleased to inform you that the National Home Library Foundation is offering "two for one" matching grants in cooperation with "Friends of Libraries" groups for donations made for the purchase of books in amounts between \$500.00 and \$1,250.00. Any monies collected in amounts totalling more than \$500.00 to be used for book purchases by our branch during 1982 would be matched "two for one" so that the total monies would then be given to our branch for additional purchases of books. We have a chance to give our Librarian up to \$3,800 with a total collection on our part of \$1,250.00. I might add that several people have already expressed a desire to contribute to our cause. We have also had help promised to aid us in getting started.

Since it is a prerequisite of the grant that the Friends group organize and incorporate we will hold a get-

acquainted organizational meeting on March 3 at the West End Library at 7:30 p.m. Because the library closes at 9:00 p.m. sharp, the meeting will begin promptly. For those who have forgotten where it is, it is at 24th and L Streets N.W. You can also register for a library card before the meeting if you do not have one.

The grant program and the organization of the Friends provide wonderful opportunities for citizens to show their support for library services in a most concrete way. The excellent work done by Friends, Citizen Advocates for Libraries and other groups in presenting the Library's budget needs to public funding authorities will be fortified by evidence of self-help and fund raising efforts in our neighborhood.

See you on the 3rd of March?

Robert F. Alcorn  
Chairman  
The Friends of West End  
Branch Library

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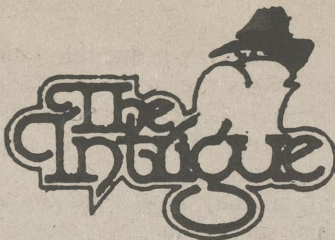
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The Foggy Bottom News is a publication of the Foggy Bottom Association. All editorial and other assistance is contributed on a volunteer basis by residents of the area.

Editor ..... Kathy Haley 331-7800  
Assistant Editor ..... Peggy Soares  
Advertising Manager ..... Ed Winterbottom 638-5409  
Artists ..... Pam Palco, Jackie Cooper, Bill Lattin  
Circulation ..... Eleanor Becker

All announcements, letters, articles, etc., welcome but must be typed. Send To:

FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS

c/o West End Library

24th & L Sts., N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20037

Next Issue's Deadline: March 6

The opinions expressed in this publication re those of the writers. Their appearance here constitutes neither an endorsement nor official policy of the Foggy Bottom Association.

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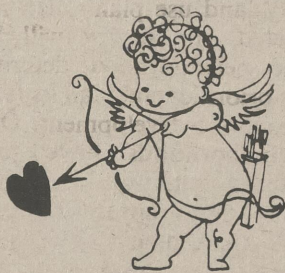
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## ANC NEWS

Excerpts from the Jan. 13 and Feb. 2 meetings of the Foggy Bottom and West End Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2A).

The ANC office is located at 1920 G Street, NW, Wash. DC 20006. Phone number is 659-0011. Meetings are regularly held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM. The elected members of the Commission for 1982-83 are Jon Nowick, Lou Rigdon, Maria Tyler, Geoffrey Stamm, Steve Levy, Jimmy Molinelli and Ed Terry. Rick Churchill is the administrative assistant.

**Columbia Hospital Expansion:** On Feb. 2 the ANC voted to support a "certificate of need" application by the Columbia Hospital for Women to build a medical office building at 25th and M Streets. A resolution by Commissioner Nowick said that the office is in a commercially zoned district, could help relieve pressures for medical clinic development in residential districts, and that the planned parking arrangements could improve the current tight on-street residential parking situation. Discussions at the meeting focused on medical clinic development and the traffic and parking situation near the hospital. The hospital had abandoned earlier plans to split its property lot and seek a zoning variance.

**Committee Heads:** The following commissioners will serve as committee heads for 1982: Nowick-housing; Tyler transportation; Stamm-economic development; Levy-zoning; Molinelli-environmental affairs and public safety. Neighborhood residents Karen Gordon and Robert Alcorn were asked to continue heading the Red Lion Row and Library Affairs special committees. Committee memberships are open to all interested citizens.

**Firehouse Closing Proposals:** At the invitation of the Commission, City Councilman David Clarke (Ward 1) addressed the Feb. 2 ANC meeting about proposals to close the neighborhood's two firehouses, on G and M Streets. Clarke heads the Council's Judiciary Committee, where the proposals are now being considered. Clarke said he shared the ANC's concerns about the proposals, made by Mayor Barry and Council Chairman Dixon, and voiced his determination to keep both firehouses open. He also said he was optimistic about the outcome of the issue in the Council. ANC Commissioner Ed Terry had testified on the firehouses before Clarke's committee (see story, page 1), warning that the closings could endanger our neighborhood and large parts of downtown. The ANC will continue to monitor developments and take appropriate action.

**Georgetown-KenCen Shuttle:** The ANC approved a resolution, introduced by Commissioner Stamm, to recommend changes in the route now used by the M-12 bus—the Georgetown-Kennedy Center shuttle. The ANC will ask to have the bus run northbound from the Kennedy Center along New Hampshire Ave., as at present, but then turn right on H Street and left onto 23rd Street to Washington Circle. The bus service, which currently runs up 24th Street, is experimental and will be reevaluated this spring. The ANC will comment further at that time.

**GWU Parking Lots:** On the recommendation of Commissioner Stamm, the Commission voted to oppose a GWU zoning application to continue use of three parking lots in residential districts on the 2000-and 2300-blocks of H Street. Stamm's resolution maintained that the number of parking spaces now on campus exceeds the level allowed in the approved campus plan. A debate over parking and other issues ensued between GWU's Robert Dickman and Commissioners Stamm and Levy. Molinelli cast a dissenting vote on the issue.

**Officers Determined:** The ANC unanimously elected the following commissioners to serve as officers for 1982: Levy—chair; Nowick—first vice chair; Tyler—second vice chair; Molinelli—treasurer; Rigdon—secretary. Each commissioner was eligible to fill any office except Nowick, who had served a two-term limit as chair. All commissioners are equal regardless of office.

**West End Circle Theater:** On Jan. 13 the ANC gave conditional support to parking variances needed to expand the West End Circle Theater. The action came after representatives from the adjacent Carriage House condominium reached an understanding with the theater owners. The ANC recommended that a careful study be done to determine if enough theater parking spaces have been provided and that any variances be limited to 3 years, after which time they may be reevaluated. The expansion will include two new theaters with about 400 seats. Carriage House residents had voiced concern about the shortage of on-street residential parking in the area. Commissioner Nowick has since gotten in touch with the DC Dept. of Transportation to try to alleviate the situation.

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## Hearing

### D.C. Department of Transportation

Date: Tuesday, Feb. 23

Subject: Retention of a ban on tour bus traffic in the vicinity of 25th and Eye Sts. NW

Place: St. Paul's Parish House, 2430 K St. NW

Time: 9 a.m., continuing all day and into the evening. Residents of Foggy Bottom will be testifying

**Urgent Need:** It is important that lots of Foggy Bottom Residents attend this hearing to demonstrate our determination to keep this ban in effect.



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## Contributions Needed for Neighborhood Survey

Your tax-deductible contributions are needed to help finance a comprehensive building survey of our neighborhood.

You may have read about this survey in last month's issue of this paper. It is being partly underwritten by two neighborhood groups—the FBA and the ANC. The aim of the survey is to identify buildings of architectural and historic merit throughout Foggy Bottom and West End.

The need for the survey is made all the more pressing by the lack of a comprehensive city land use plan. Once completed, the survey will help the neighborhood determine its priorities and plan its future economic development. Other neighborhoods have taken similar initiatives and gotten their plans approved by the DC Government. The survey may also help determine

whether historic landmark applications should be submitted to preserve the neighborhood's cultural and historical assets.

The first step of the neighborhood survey has already begun. The research firm Tracerics has been contracted and is now undertaking an inventory of the neighborhood's buildings. Several neighborhood residents have offered their time to take photographs, type, and perform other tasks to help defray the cost of the survey. But the total cost will be about \$3,500—a figure above what the Foggy Bottom Association and the Advisory Neighborhood Commission have already spent. These groups need your financial help, particularly in view of their many other priorities.

You can help in this major community initiative by making out your contributions to

"ANC 2A," mailing address 1920 G St. NW, Wash. DC 20006. The ANC is a governmental body, so your contributions are tax-deductible. Contributions can be made in sums up to, but not including, \$100. If you have any questions about this vitally important project, please call Rick Churchill at 659-0011. Your gift can make the difference!

## Documentation Sought

Do you have any old pictures, maps or any other historical documents pertaining to Foggy Bottom and the West End? The Foggy Bottom Association is trying to locate this kind of historical data. If you can help please call Rick Churchill at 331-7800.

## Library Hours

The West End Library, at 24th and L Sts. NW, is open Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. It is closed on Fridays and Sundays.

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## Update: Foggy Bottom Metrobus

The Foggy Bottom-Georgetown minibus, instituted in December, appears to fill a transportation need, but there is some objection to its route, especially the part in the 800 block of New Hampshire Avenue.

This bus is the outgrowth of hearings last summer on the concept of service directed specifically to community (rather than commuter) use. During and subsequent to the hearings, Georgetown residents and merchants, faced with increased traffic congestion due to the new Georgetown Park, inclement weather, and a desire to have some kind of service in effect for the holiday shopping period, were instrumental in DOT's recognizing the need and planning for it.

The availability of the Downtowner buses allowed DOT to institute the service sooner than expected. No official notification of the service, route or frequency was sent in advance to neighborhood representatives. As stated before, it is running on an experimental basis and

DOT is welcoming community suggestions and comments.

The Fobby Bottom Association and ANC2A are requesting that the route be changed so that the bus travels east on H Street and north on 23rd Street. This will ease traffic congestion in the 800 block of New Hampshire, a narrow and mainly residential street, and send the bus past the Metro station, allowing Metro passengers as well to utilize it easily to travel to Georgetown.

The community is also asking that it be involved fully when the service is evaluated at the end of its experimental period.

### Five Area Service Survive

As of February 1, the H-6 bus was discontinued. This bus traveled from Kennedy Center, east on Virginia Avenue, South on 23rd, past the State Department and north on 18th Street, east on Eye and north on Connecticut Avenue.

A new rush hour bus, H-1, will begin at 21st and C and

follow a similar route. The bus travels south on 19th in the reverse direction.

The following are transit services which now remain: (1) Metrorail Blue Line (Foggy Bottom Station); (2) Kennedy Center-Georgetown Metro-Minibus (M-12); (3) M-5 rush hour service which runs westbound in the morning and eastbound in the evening; (4) 46 rush hour service running from Kennedy Center to Mount Pleasant; during off-peak hours, 46 operates from Foggy Bottom Metro stop; (5) 81, running from Kennedy Center to Fort Totten on an all-day, everyday schedule. It travels north on New Hampshire, east on H, south on 23rd, east on F (west on G) north on 18th (south on 19th), and east on Pennsylvania, New York Avenue and H Street to North Capitol, continuing north and east to the Brookland area.

Foggy Bottom residents wishing further information on these routes can call the undersigned at 337-5528.

Ellie Becker

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## News And Views From Queen Anne's Lane

We want to thank **Joe Reintzel** for succeeding in having snow plows go up and down our lane several times. The city plows seem to consider us an alley and bypass us. Unfortunately the plow dumped a great heap of snow in front of Joe's home and he still had to dig his driveway out.

We welcome two new residents to the lane: **Mr. William Teel** of Denver, Colorado, and **Miss Linda Tyson**. Miss Tyson is a nurse with nearby Columbia Hospital.

Our condolences to **Murdaugh Madden** on the loss of his sister, **Mrs. Mary Madden Persinger**. There is a new baby, **Jonathan Santos**, just around the corner from our lane on 26th Street. Our congratulations to **Leonard and Jeannie Santos**. **Marguerite Stoessel** had a little surprise birthday party for **Grace Watson** the latter part of January. **Georgia and Bill Gelabert** have just returned from a visit with family and friends in Phoenix, from a business and skiing trip to Europe.

Mary Brewster

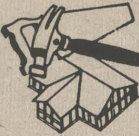


## Did You Know?

Columbia Hospital for Women was one of several area hospitals that implemented disaster plans as a result of the Air Florida plane crash and the Metro Subway accident that occurred on January 13, 1982. Columbia Hospital for Women put their disaster plan in effect in preparation for receiving up to thirty female patient transfers from the George Washington University hospital in the event that a large number of survivors had been taken to that hospital. Columbia Hospital was also prepared to provide blankets, medicine and equipment to assist the George Washington University Hospital if needed. While Columbia does not maintain an emergency room, it does practice disaster drills to be prepared to meet community emergencies.

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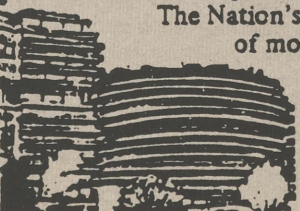
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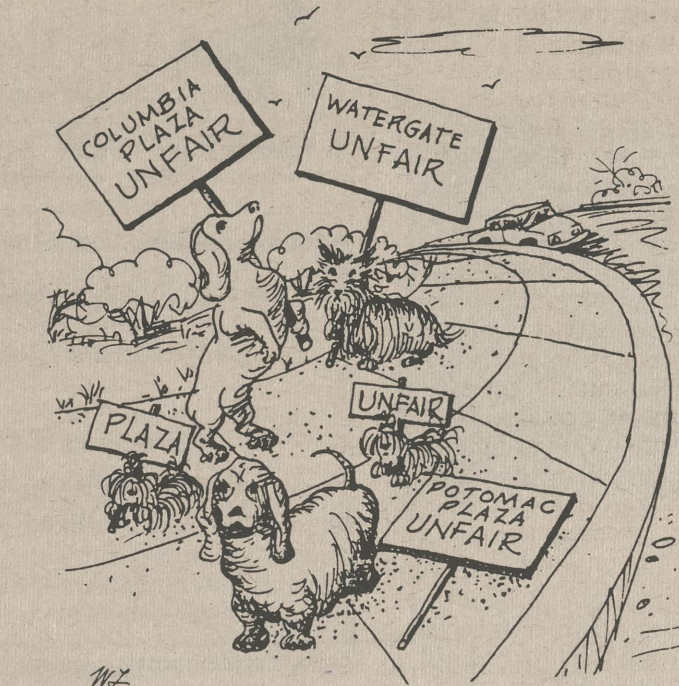
# The Urban Scene

Fox von Boom

Personally, I can sympathize with the picketing that took place in front of the statue of Juarez in the Circle fronted by Watergate and the three Foggy Bottom Plazas. The picketing had been precipitated by the letter to the Editor of the Foggy Bottom News from the President of the Board of Directors of The Plaza. He had been upset by News articles and by "the effects of dogs being walked on the lawn area on the south end of The Plaza."

Anyone who travels sidewalks that converge at Watergate Safeway would recognize the picketers. The largest was the big, bouncy sheepdog from the rowhouse areas; the smallest were the two Yorkshire terriers — always together; the saddest were the two Basset hounds that are likewise inseparable; there was a black Scottie from Watergate and a Golden retriever from Columbia Plaza. They were agitated and needed no urging to speak.

The Basset hounds were first; one said: "Every spring its the same — letters to the Editor and talk, talk, talk, and nothing'sd ever done about it." The second: "And there will be a letter from the lady telling people to carry 'doggie dippers' (long handled tongs),



and a doggie bag. Who knows where to get "doggie dippers!" The Yorkies: "We should write Mrs. Reagan; she would do something about it!"

Actually it was the Columbia Plaza Golden retriever, agitated by the Scottie visiting his lawn each morning, who had the first practical suggestion: "The National Park Service should plant bushes in the lawn area over the E street Expressway (on the south side of Virginia Ave., between Columbia plaza and the Circle); the bushes would hide us, and

there could be stepping stones for people."

"And Watergate could at least have Safeway carry 'doggie dippers'", blurted one of the Yorkies. The Scottie ended it with; "I can just see a Mink Coat carrying 'doggie dippers'!"

And, Mary Healy should talk with the Park Service about a Doggie Walk behind or between the Crabapple trees where the Pigeon Lady feeds the birds. It would make the trees bloom red, white and blue.

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## News From Here and There

It's good to have Watergate Sunoco open again, nicely remodeled and under the ownership of **Bill Parker**. This marks the third time Bill has been at this station, having first worked there when he was 19 years old. He also ran the station several years ago and was succeeded by **Wayne Cochran**, who managed it until the remodeling was started this fall. His friends are glad to see that Wayne is continuing to work at the station.

Watergate Exxon is having its turn at remodeling, in the form of new tanks being installed. We hear it was to have taken only a couple of weeks and the station was slated to reopen in early February.

### And the Snows Came

The January snows made Foggy Bottom a fairyland, but the white lacy blanket was temporary, followed by grimy slush and icy streets and walks. Snows Court's **Betty May** and 25th Street's **Betty Brown** are nursing ice-caused injuries. Good neighbors helped out all over the Bottom, with loans of snow shovels, salt and sand, and even muscle power. One lucky Good Samaritan was rewarded with a loaf of fresh homemade bread, a nice treat for a few minutes' work.

But the lack of diligence was obvious, in untouched sidewalks, a real hazard for pedestrians. One resident wondered if buildings with snow removal equipment might lend (or even rent out) machines and/or labor to less well equipped neighbors. It would be a fine neighborly service, that's for sure.

And the non-public-spirited (and illegal-acting) dog owners were even more obvious, with their pets' residue showing starkly against the snow. It was obnoxiously obvious, because the deep snow caused more droppings to be deposited right where people walk. How I wish there was some magic fairy who would immediately transfer those deposits to the homes of their owners, putting the dirty, smelly shoe on the other foot for a change. It is possible to handle this problem; lots of good dog owners do it. By the way, this is written by a person who loves dogs, but not some of their owners!

Ellie Becker

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## Octagon Celebrates Anniversary

American architectural practice in 1857 and 1982 is vividly evoked in "To Unite in Fellowship," an exhibition marking the 125th anniversary at The American Institute of Architects, at the historic Octagon, 1799 New York Ave. (corner of 18th and E Streets, N.W.), January 15-February 21.

The exhibit chronicles the progress of architectural practice from the status of an apprenticeship trade to a profession respected worldwide. Featured are two architects' offices — 125 years ago and today. The former includes antique furnishings, tools of the trade, historic architectural drawings and other archival materials; and the latter features a modern computer system and other contemporary tools.

"To Unite in Fellowship" documents the growth of the AIA from its founding in 1857 by Richard Upjohn and 12 other architects in New York City to a national voluntary professional society with 38,000 members in 294 state and local chapters. It shows how the AIA has carried out its stated aims: "... to unite in fellowship the architects of this continent, and to combine their efforts so as to promote

the artistic, scientific and practical efficiency of the profession."

On display is an 1846 watercolor, "The Studio of Richard Upjohn in Trinity Churchyard," lent by the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City, and 19th century office furnishings from the Office of the Curator of the Smithsonian Building.

The exhibit also includes an album from the Architect of the Capitol containing photographs of Thomas U. Walter's designs for construction of the U.S. Capitol dome in 1857; architectural tools (e.g., T-squares, ink stands, ruling pens) from the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio Foundation, Oak Park, Ill.; old and new office materials from Keuffel & Esser Co., Morristown, N.J. and Arlington, Va.; and a three-dimensional computer-aided drafting and design system lent by Interactive Computer Systems Inc. of Louisiana, Baton Rouge. Don A. Hawkins & Associates of Washington, D.C., will be architects-in-residence.

The complexities of contemporary architectural practice will be outlined in a graphic display, "The Willard: A

Restoration Comedy in 13 Years," covering the high and low points of a long struggle to decide the fate of this landmark Washington, D.C. hotel.

Photographs portray architects' offices from the mid-19th century to the present. Among those spotlighted are Richard M. Hunt's studios in New York City (1860s) and Newport, R.I. (1880s); floorplan of Henry Bacon's office, New York City (1912); and the "draughting room" of Frank Lloyd Wright's studio. Also featured are more modern office settings of Eero Saarinen & Associates, Bloomfield Hills, Mich. (1955-1960); Holabird, Root & Burgee, Chicago (1949); Arthur Cotton Moore/Associates and Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associates Architects (both 1981), Washington, D.C.

The first major exhibit during the year-long celebration of the AIA's 125th anniversary was organized by the AIA with the support of the AIA Foundation. It was researched and designed by Staples & Charles Ltd., Washington, D.C.

The Octagon, built in 1798, is owned and maintained by the AIA Foundation.

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## Tax Reform Proposal

The following are excerpts from a statement by Ward 2 District Councilmember John Wilson on a tax bill he has sponsored. Mr. Wilson is seeking comment on his legislation. For more information or to submit comments, call Jac-

queline Helm, general counsel, Committee on Finance and Revenue at 724-8084.

On October 6, 1981, I introduced the "Real Property Tax Freeze and Reform Act of 1981." This bill reflects a complete overhaul of the District's

current real property tax, assessment, and appeal process.

For years now the rapidly escalating value of residential real property in the District has caused real property tax assessments to increase at as-

found rates *each year*. For example, assessments of single family residences in the District have increased an average of the following amounts for each tax year since 1977:

Tax Year 1977	25.1%
Tax Year 1978	19.7%
Tax year 1979	17.8%
Tax year 1980	19.3%
Tax year 1981	22.6%
Tax Year 1982	21.4%

Since assessments form the basis upon which the real property tax is applied, tax bills to residential real property owners have been going up even as tax rates have been going down. Thus when Councilmembers vote for a tax rate decrease they create the illusion that tax bills will also be reduced. In reality, however, the yearly increases in assessments have been such that even with tax rate decreases residential real property owners are paying ever larger real property tax bills.

Uncontrolled assessment increases are driving many longtime District residents to sell their homes because they can no longer afford yearly real property tax. It is clear that this new way of valuing

residential real property is not intended to reflect the property's market value.

By creating this type of freeze on residential property tax values and only increasing the tax value when the property is transferred, current owners of residential real property will know exactly what the tax value of their property will be as long as they own it. Likewise, persons who purchase residential real property in the future will know, when they purchase the property, what its tax value will be as long as they own it.

Under this system of assigning fixed tax values to residential real properties, the only way the real property tax on these properties can increase is if the Council and the Mayor increase the real property tax rates. This puts the burden for increased real property taxes squarely where it belongs — on the elected officials. This new system also makes the real property tax easier to understand and provides the taxpayer with one direct place to focus his efforts if he is dissatisfied with the tax — the officials whom he helped to elect.

## G St. Fire Station

*continued from page 1*

why, for the second straight year, has the mayor requested the closing of our firehouse? I have never been given any real answer.

We must let the Mayor and the City Council know that our community will not permit our firehouse, one which had an 8 percent rise in calls and protects the lives and property of over 138,000 people, to be repeatedly slated for closure just to save operating expenses.

Finally, I encourage all the residents to stop by and visit the firefighters. I learned more about the state of fire protection in Washington from them than the Mayor or even the Fire Chief. I know they welcome visitors (they also make good coffee).





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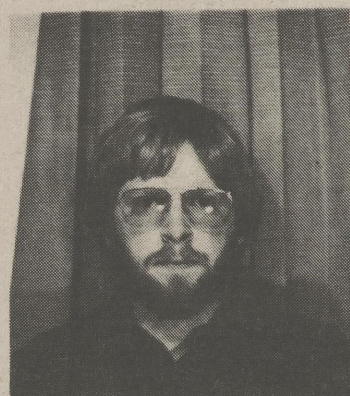
## ANC: "Now We Are Seven"

Peggy Soares

The Foggy Bottom West End Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2-A) got a new commissioner in January. Ed Terry, a George Washington University student, was chosen in a draw between himself and another write-in candidate to serve the sparsely-populated area between 20th Street N.W. and the White House, E St. N.W. and the Mall.

Terry's district comprises only three multiple residences (all dormitories) and two townhouses. Because its population has dwindled in recent years due to commercial and University development, the district is likely to be eliminated when Washington is redistricted next year. Until then, however, Mr. Terry says, he has "a year to get things done."

Mr. Terry says he ran for the ANC after becoming frustrated at not being able to get things done through the GWU Student Association. He believes students are a legitimate part of our neighborhood's population and deserve representation.



The new commissioner has wasted no time getting involved in neighborhood issues. He is leading an effort to prevent the D.C. government from closing a firehouse at 2119 G St. N.W. and to that end testified recently before the District Council and spoke with Mayor Barry.

A junior at GWU, Mr. Terry is majoring in American studies. He comes from Newtown, Conn., near Danbury.



## St. Paul's to the Rescue

Ellie Becker

The clergy and laity of St. Paul's Episcopal Church opened its doors to the homeless during January's freezing weather. A total of 17 people were housed each night, with supper and a coffee & donut breakfast provided by parish volunteers.

The bitter cold occasioned the decision to provide housing, and it was an outgrowth of St. Paul's continuing ministry to homeless persons. In the past they have distributed food to those "on the street," as well as some warm clothing and blankets.

The church will be unable to continue taking people in, due to almost constant use of their facilities during the season of

Lent. Father Wagner reports that the church will be studying ways to continue or modify its ministry, perhaps with emphasis on finding ways to encourage more low-cost housing. He indicated to Mayor Barry at the last Foggy Bottom meeting that many who took advantage of their hospitality do work whenever possible, but cannot afford the housing available in the city.

The increased ministry has put a strain on their resources. "It has been somewhat overwhelming," said Father Wagner. They have been helped financially by some suburban parish contributions, but would welcome help from any source.

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— Lime Baked Chicken \$6.25
- \*Friday & Saturday — Fresh Maine Lobster, one, \$7.95,  
— two, \$12.95 & Prime Rib \$9.95
- Sunday — Sliced Fillet Mignon Sandwich \$5.95

\*all include salad, vegetable & potato

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## Free Organ Recitals

A series of Lenten Organ Recitals will be presented at Western Presbyterian Church, 1906 H Street, N.W. each Thursday, February 25th through April 8th, at 12:15 p.m. The public is cordially invited.

The following well-known area organists will participate in this recital series:

- February 25 — Tim Gualdoni  
Western Presbyterian Church
- March 4 — Maureen A. Jais-Mick  
Christ Lutheran Church
- March 11 — Douglas F. Mears  
National Presbyterian Church
- March 18 — Michael E. Lindstrom  
Christ Episcopal Church (Georgetown)
- March 25 — Kurt Karlsson  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
- April 1 — Nancy Reed  
Mt. Vernon Place United Methodist Church
- April 8 — A. Graham Down  
Adas Israel Synagogue  
Western Presbyterian Church

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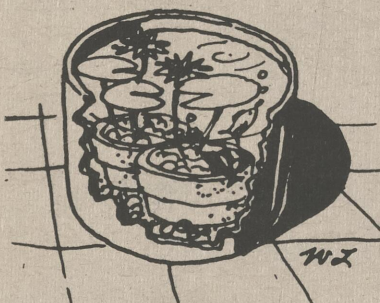


## Foggy Bottom Farmers' Almanac

William S. Lattin

Harbingers of spring are as varied and numerous as neighborhoods; their sights and sounds are sometimes ingenious and known only to the most perceptive. In Baltimore north of Mt. Vernon Place on Charles St. the sign reading "The Shad Are In" tells more than featured seafood fare at Danny's restaurant. Danny, who gets his shad in North Carolina, knows geographically where spring is, and that it breezes north at about 12 miles a day. It will reach his clime at a predictable date.

On the hills above the Potomac in Arlington across from D.C. it's the friendly metallic sounding chatter of the Purple Grackle, unseen and protected from the wind in the depths of whispering spruce trees. Coming spring is also the sometimes sounding "goodcheer, goodcheer" of the Cardinal from the tip top branches of the Tulip trees where the first morning sun makes coral jewels of the remnants of last year's flowers. Across the river in DC's Foggy Bottom it's the trooping to the River by the Georgetown, GW and Trinity crews when the mornings are still dark and frosty. Groups of eight with their polished mahogany shells hoisted above their heads, walk in lock step down the broad ramp to the floating dock. There the diminutive female Coxswain speak the words by which the eight lower their shell with Swiss clockwork precision to where the river laps the dock.



With approaching spring, decisions must be made; will it be gardening as usual or something new like a miniature water lily in a water-filled plastic trash container (buried in the ground or on your balcony). From either Washington or Baltimore, Lily Pons, Maryland, the East's



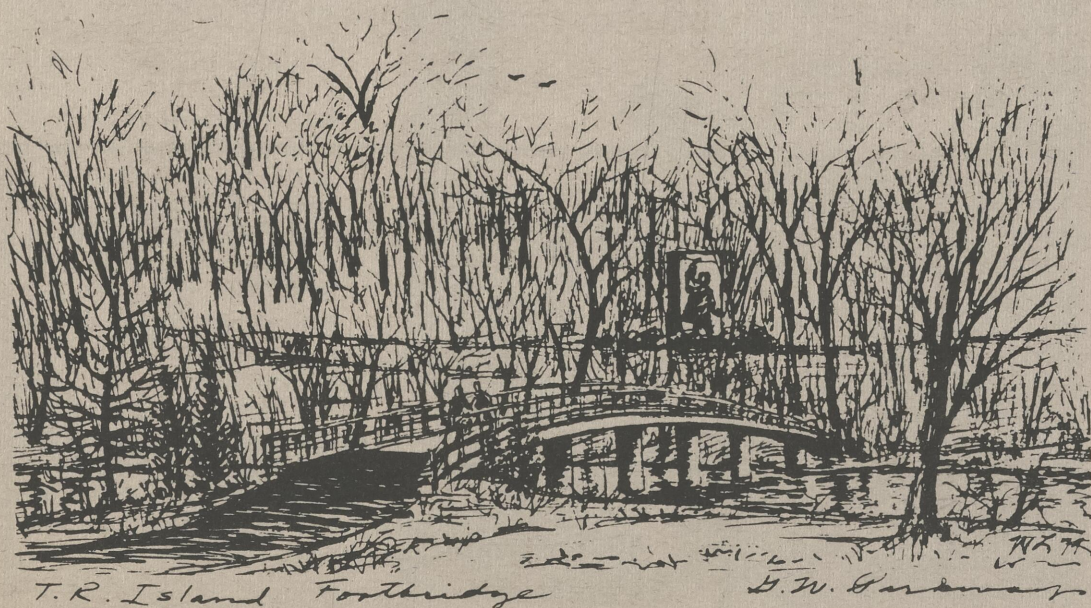
largest water lily nursery can be easily reached-I-70 and I-270 from Baltimore, I-270 from Washington. Blossomtime is a beautiful illegible climbing rose (fragrant) that can be grown in a large tub on a balcony.



Scale

And there is work to be done: The white, chalk like scale on the branches of so many beautiful plants (Japanese Red Maple, Burning Bush, American Holly, Evergreen privet, to name a few) can be rubbed off to destroy the scale eggs. Plans should be made for dormant spraying of remaining scale with an oil base spray before the leaves break.

Spring is on the wing. "Make no little plans, make big plans; only big plans can stir men's blood!"



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